

Trends in Alaska Employer Sponsored Health Insurance

Preliminary findings from an analysis of Medical Expenditure Panel Survey Data

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Prepared for
Alaska Health Care Commission Meeting
October 10, 2013

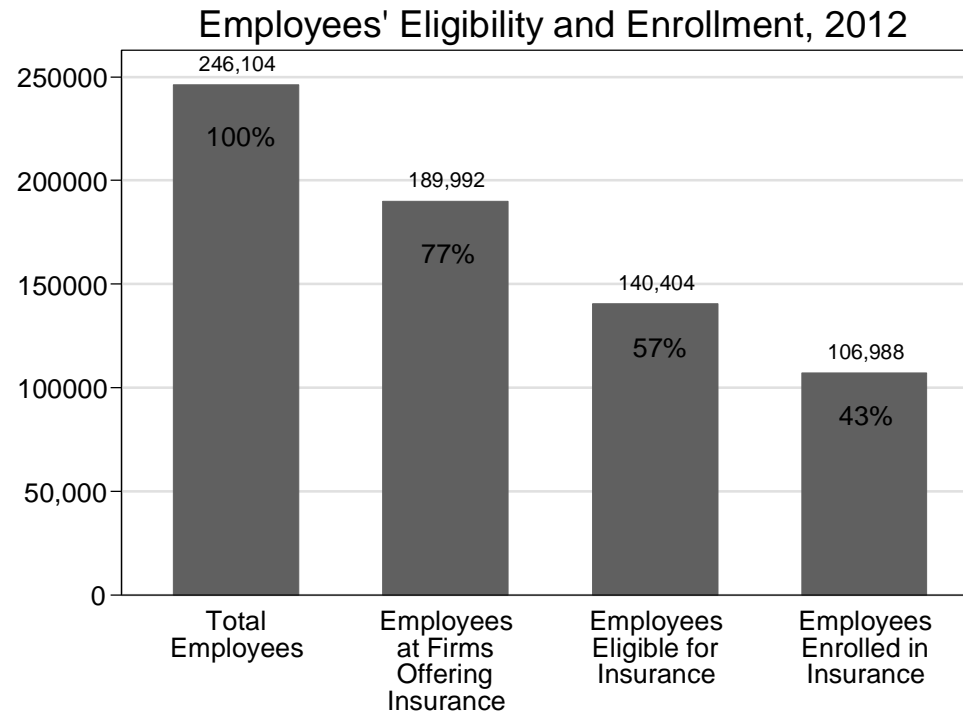
Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS) Data

- Based on annual survey conducted by U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
- Survey of “business establishments” from US Census Bureau Business Register
- 2011 survey was for a sample of 690 Alaska establishments of which 575 responded.

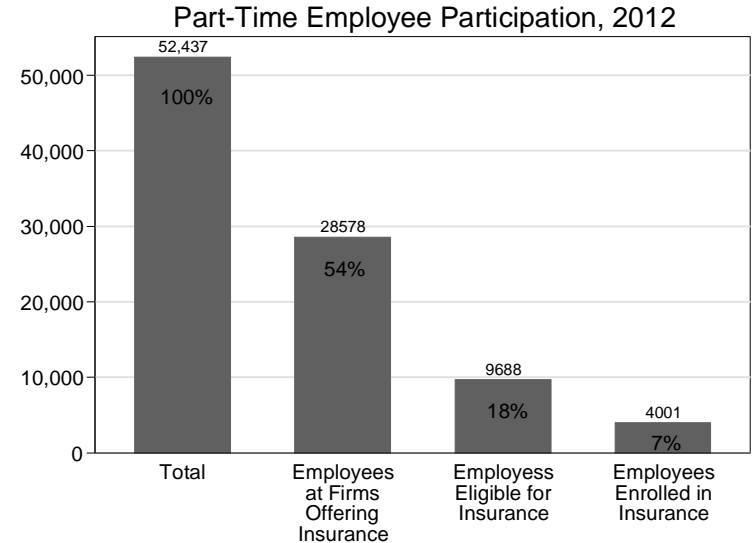
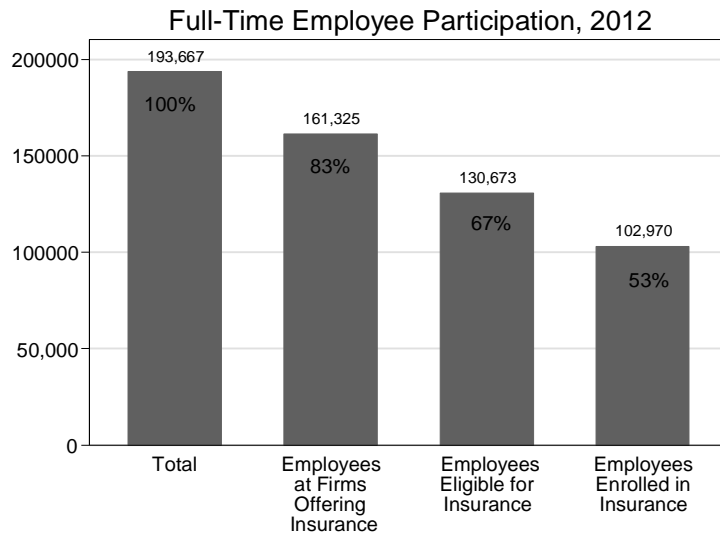
How important is ESI in Alaska?

U.S Census Bureau Estimates of Health Care Coverage of Alaskans under Age 65(%)													
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Not Covered	19	19	16	19	19	16	18	18	19	21	18	19	20
Co.by Pri. Or Gov't Insurance	81	81	84	81	81	84	82	82	81	79	82	81	80
Covered by Private Insurance	67	67	68	65	64	67	63	66	65	63	62	63	62
Standard error	1.7	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.3	1.3	2.3	1.7	2.1	1.9	2.1	2.7
Employment Based	62	62	64	62	59	61	58	61	60	57	58	59	58
Standard error	1.8	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.4	1.4	1.9	1.7	2.1	1.9	2.2	2.7
Direct Purchase	7	7	7	5	6	6	5	6	6	7	5	4	5
Standard error					0.7			0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.6	0.8
Covered by Gov't Insurance*	23	25	27	28	27	27	29	26	25	25	28	27	29
Medicaid	11	11	13	15	15	15	16	12	11	12	13	14	14
Medicare	1	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	3	2
Military Health Care	12	14	14	13	13	12	13	14	14	13	15	13	14
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplements.													
See Website for definitions. Note: Some Alaskans are covered by both private and government insurance													
*The Census Bureau does not include Indian Health Service beneficiaries who do not have other sources of insurance													
as Covered by Government Insurance													

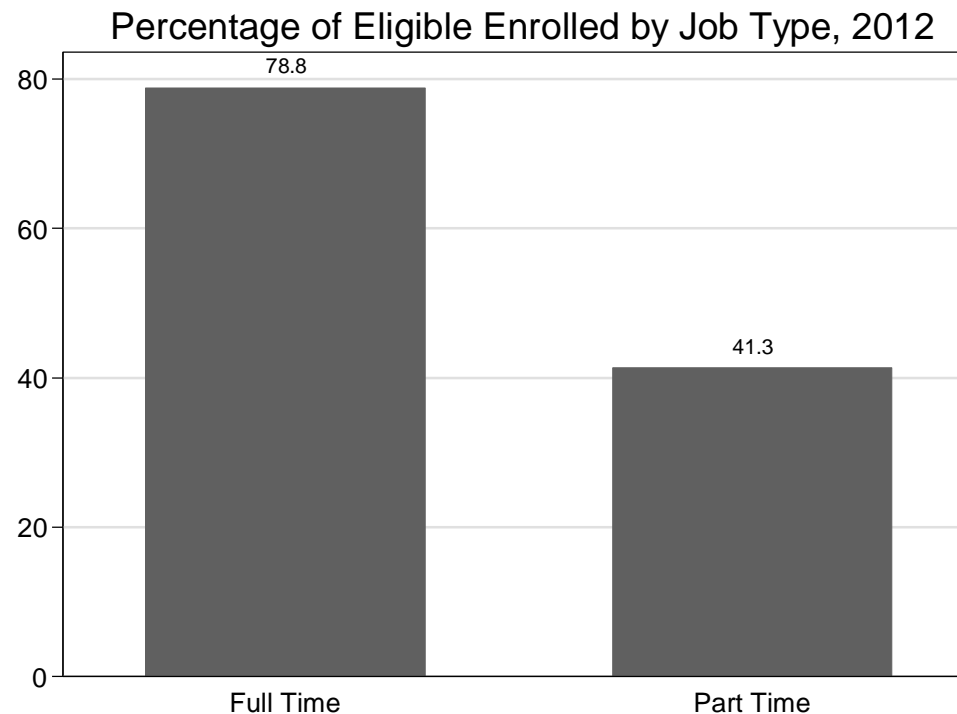
Alaska private sector employees' eligibility and enrollment, 2012



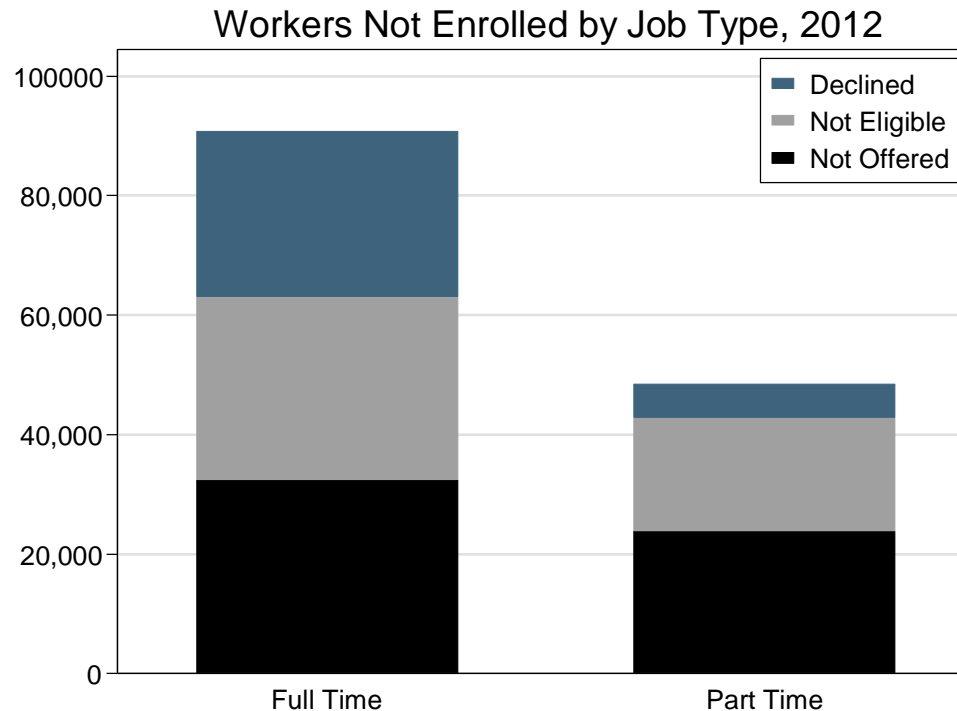
Private sector employee participation: full-time and part-time



Eligible employee enrollment: full time vs. part time

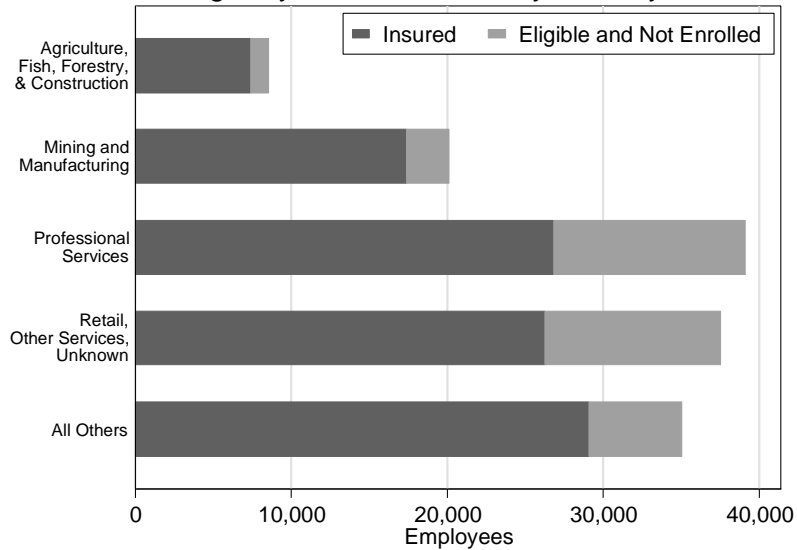


Why are some employees uninsured?

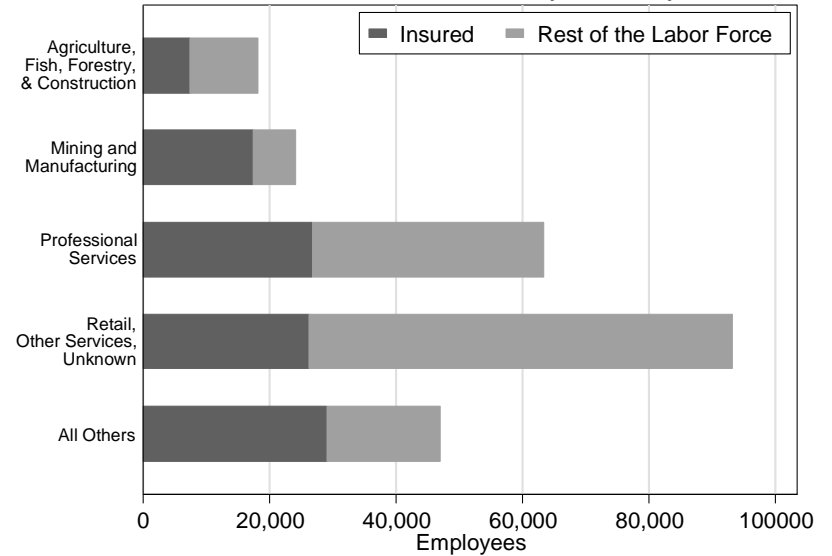


Enrollment by industry classification

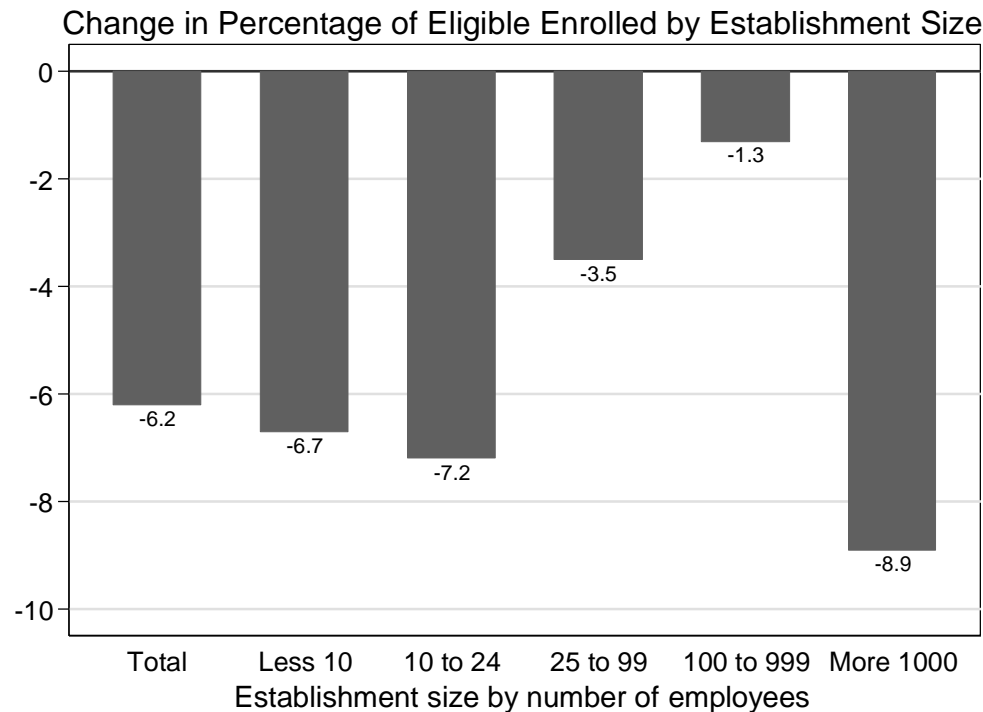
Eligibility and Enrollment by Industry, 2012



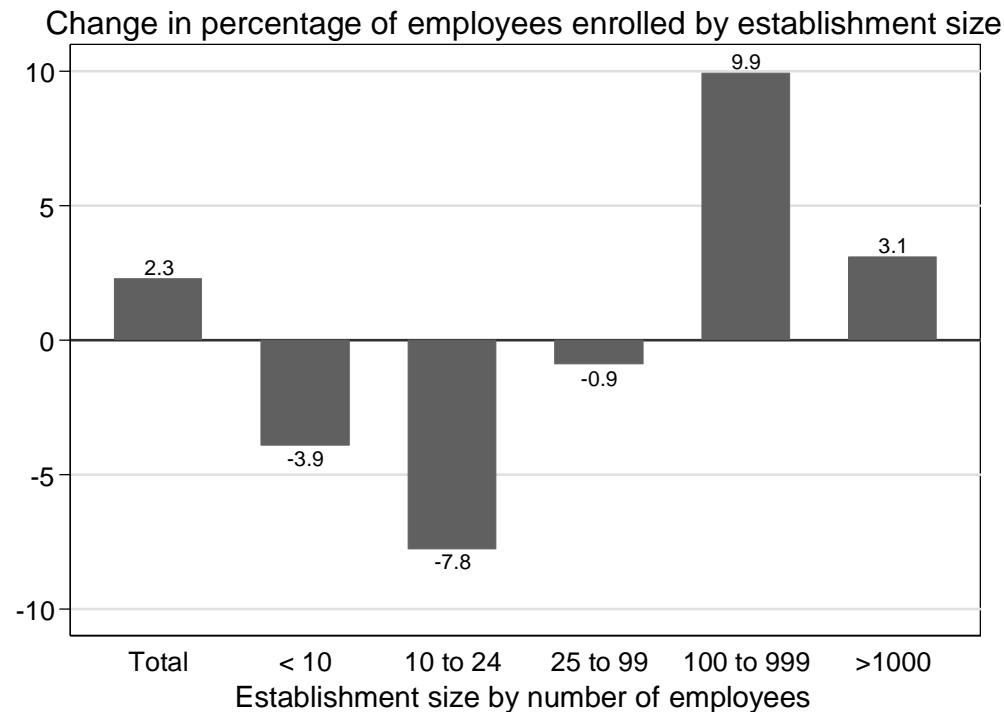
Insured and Not Insured by Industry, 2012



Percentage change in share of eligible employees enrolled in health insurance, 2001-2012

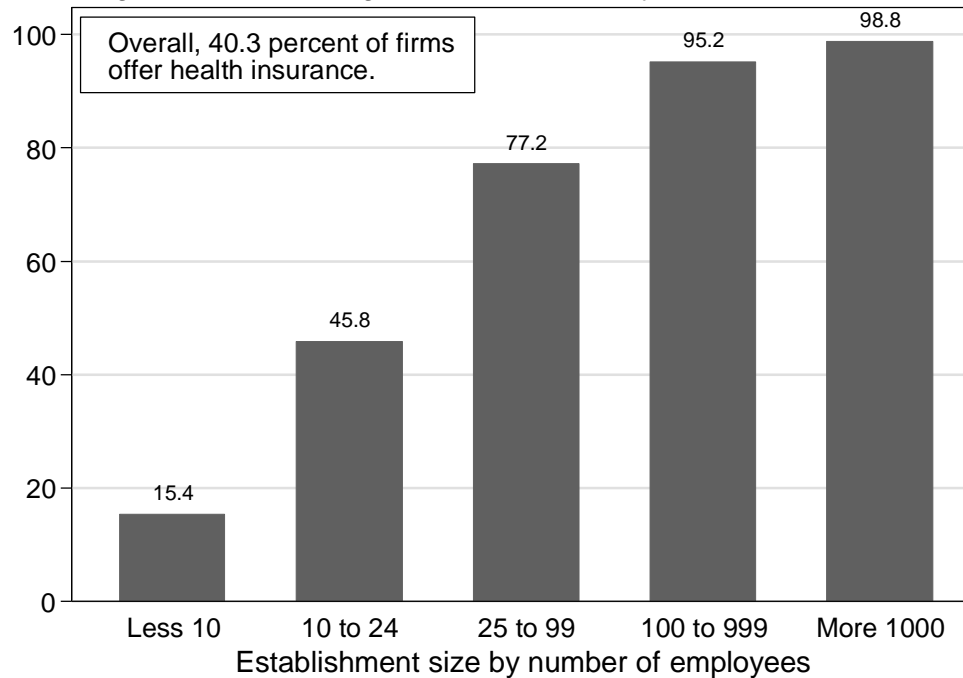


Percent change in employees who are enrolled by size of the establishment, 2001-2012



Health insurance offerings by firm size

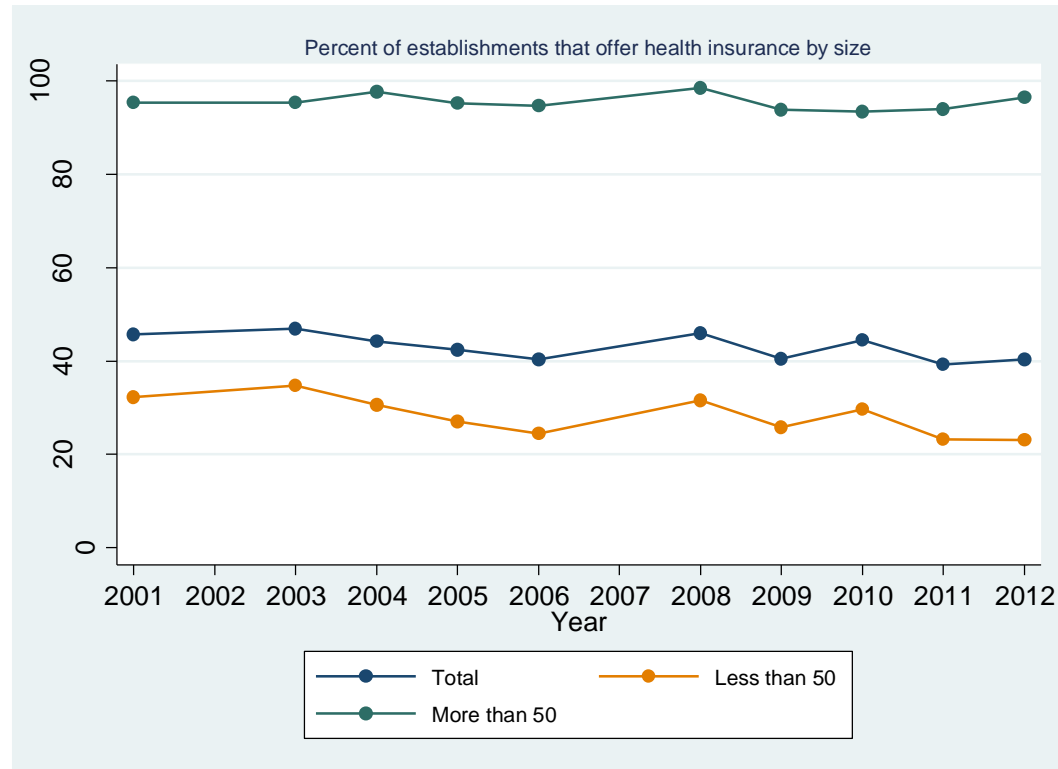
Percentage of Firms Offering Health Insurance, by Establishment Size, 2012



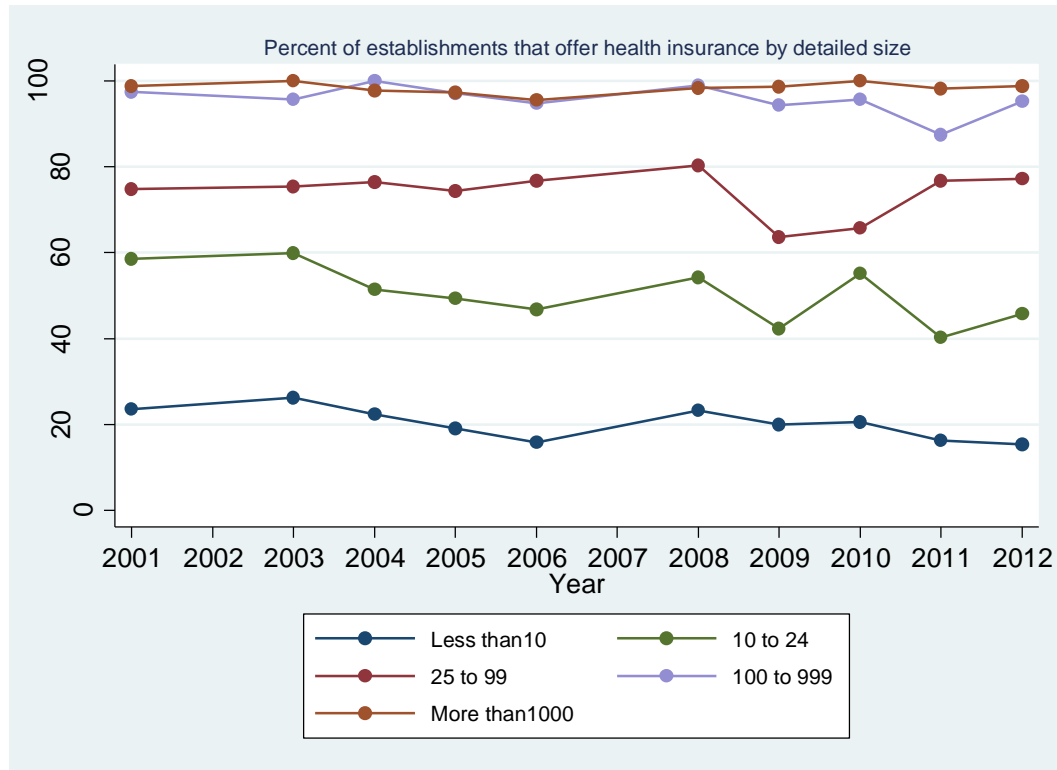
Percentage of firms offering health insurance in 2012: Small vs. Large Firms

	Small: Less than 50 employees	Large: More than 50 employees	Total: All firms
Number of AK Establishments	14,286	4,390	18,676
Percent offering health insurance	23.1%	96.5%	40.3%

Trends in health insurance offerings: Large and small firms

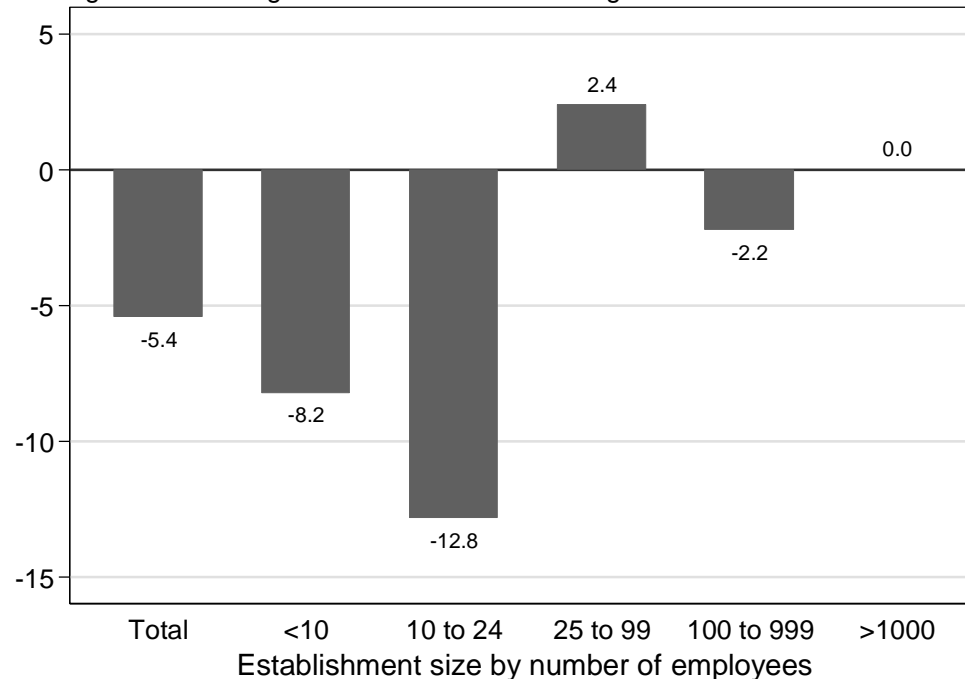


Trends in health insurance offerings, by firm size category



Change in the percentage of establishments offering health insurance, 2001-2012

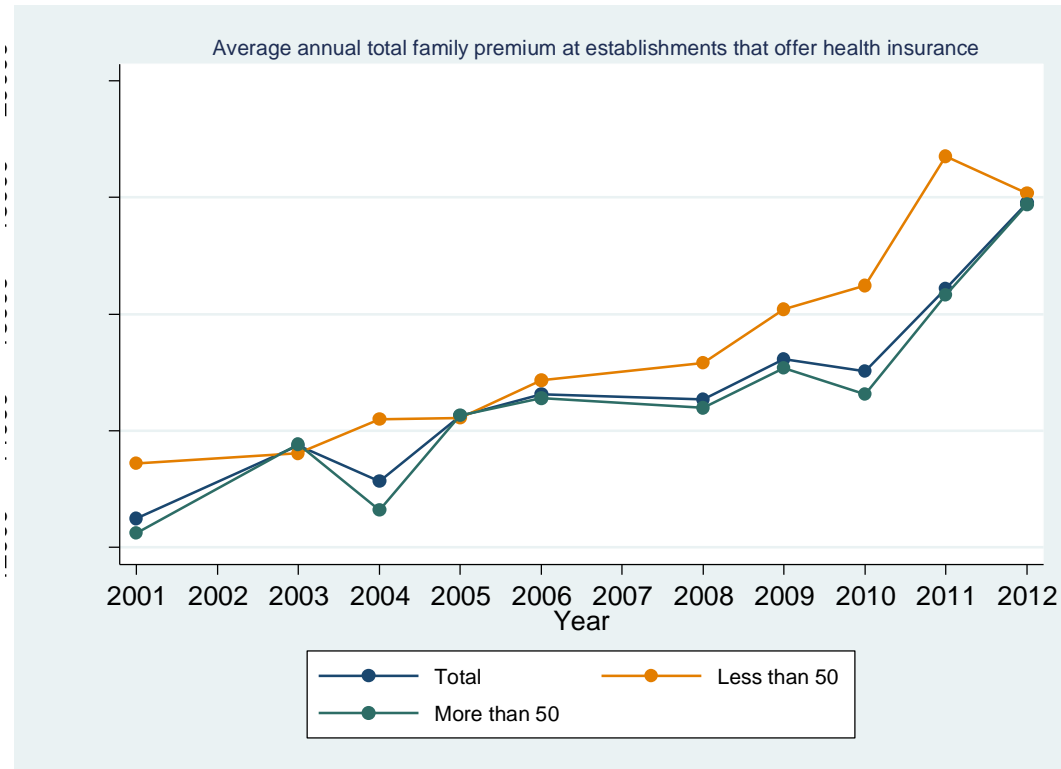
Change in Percentage of Establishments Offering Insurance between 2001 and 2012



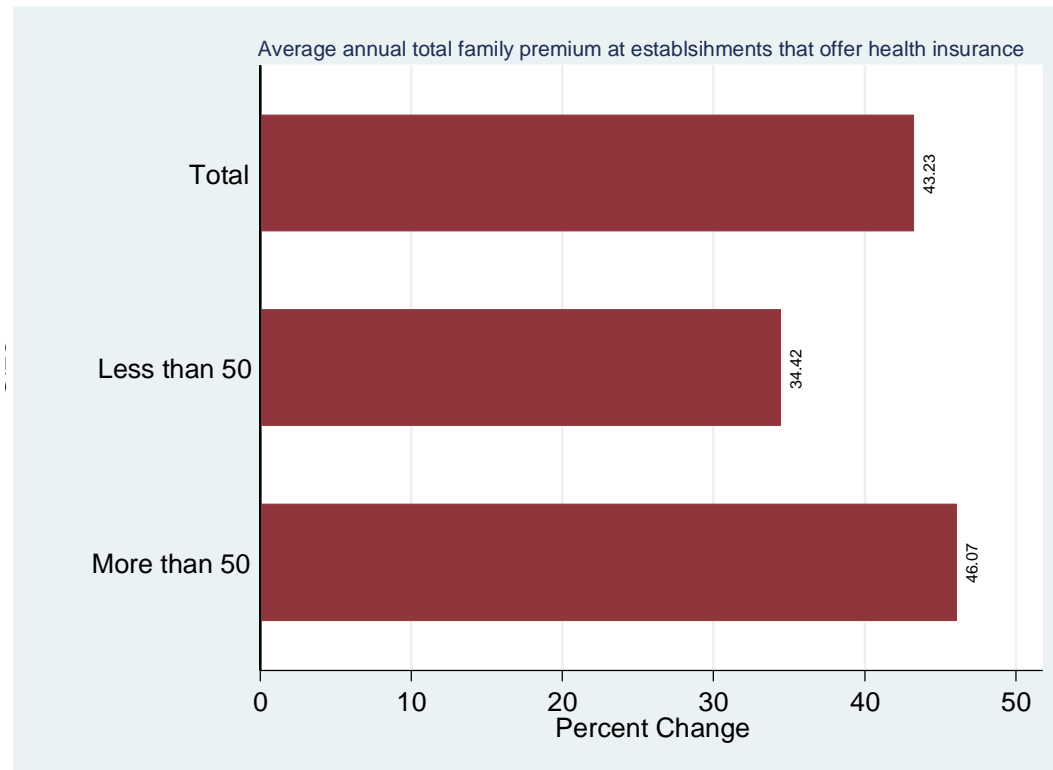
Summary of Insurance offerings and take-up

- Around 77% of Alaskans work at establishments that offer health insurance.
- Large employers are much more likely to offer health insurance than small employers.
- Part time employees are less likely to obtain insurance even when eligible.
- Declines in insurance offerings since 2002 are most pronounced for the smaller employers

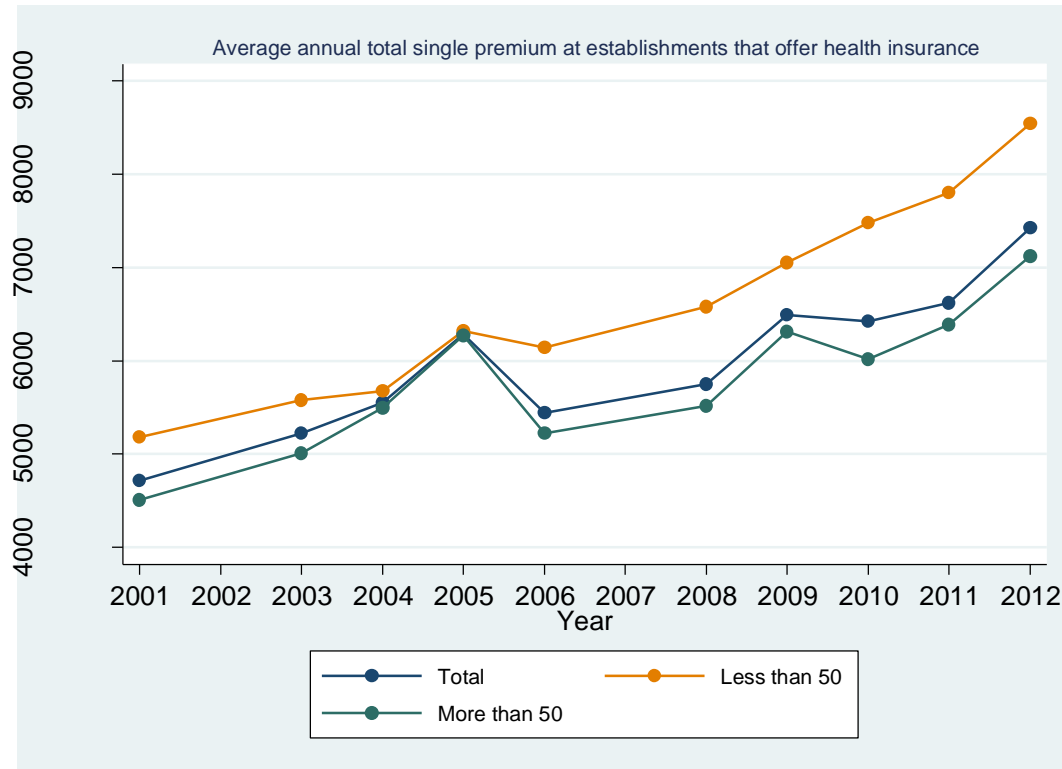
Trend in average annual premium for family coverage over time



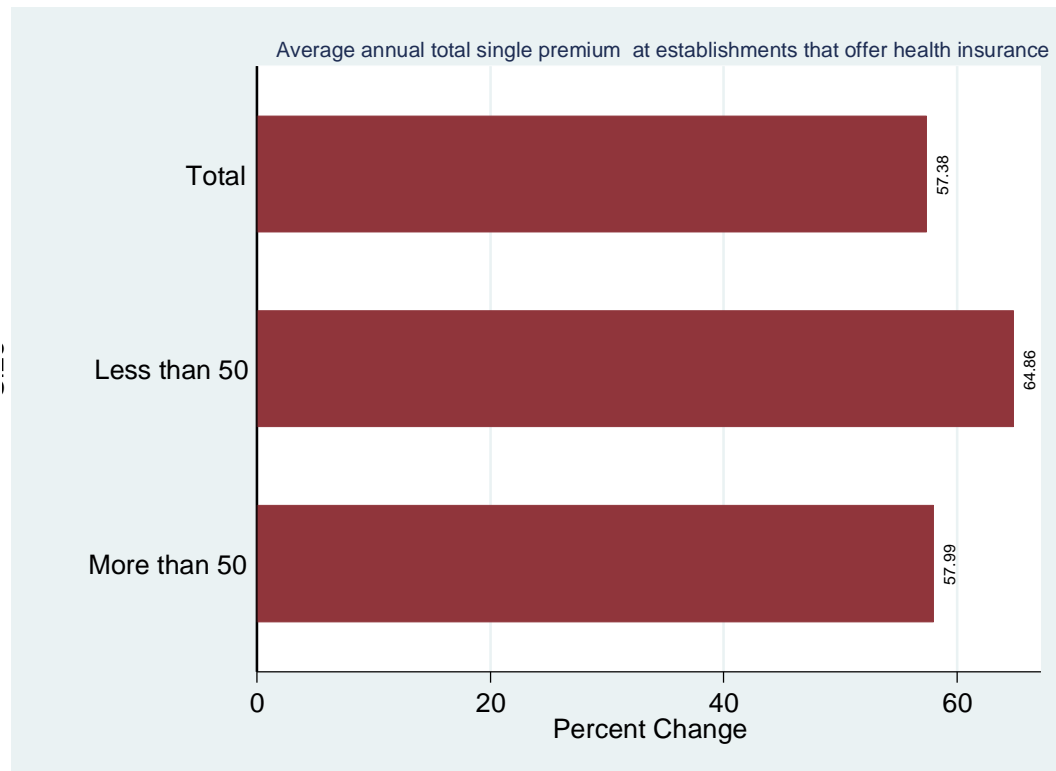
Percent change in single coverage premiums (2001-2012)



Trend in average annual premium for single coverage over time



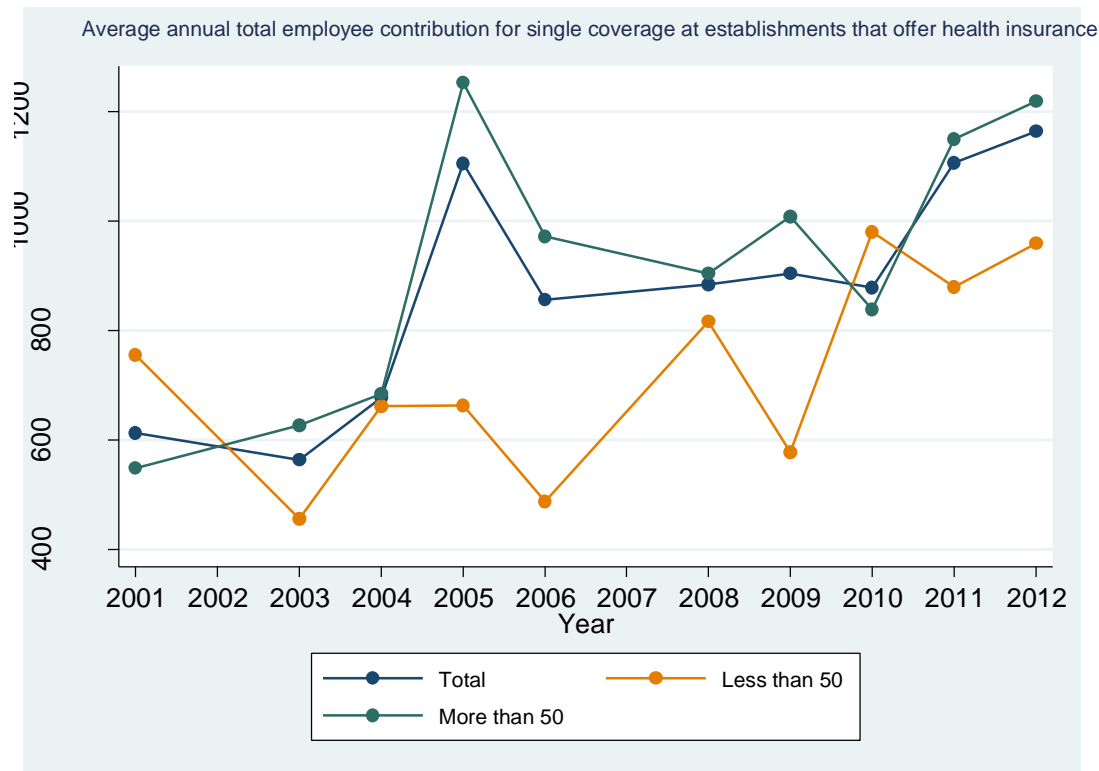
Percent change in single coverage premiums (2001-2012)



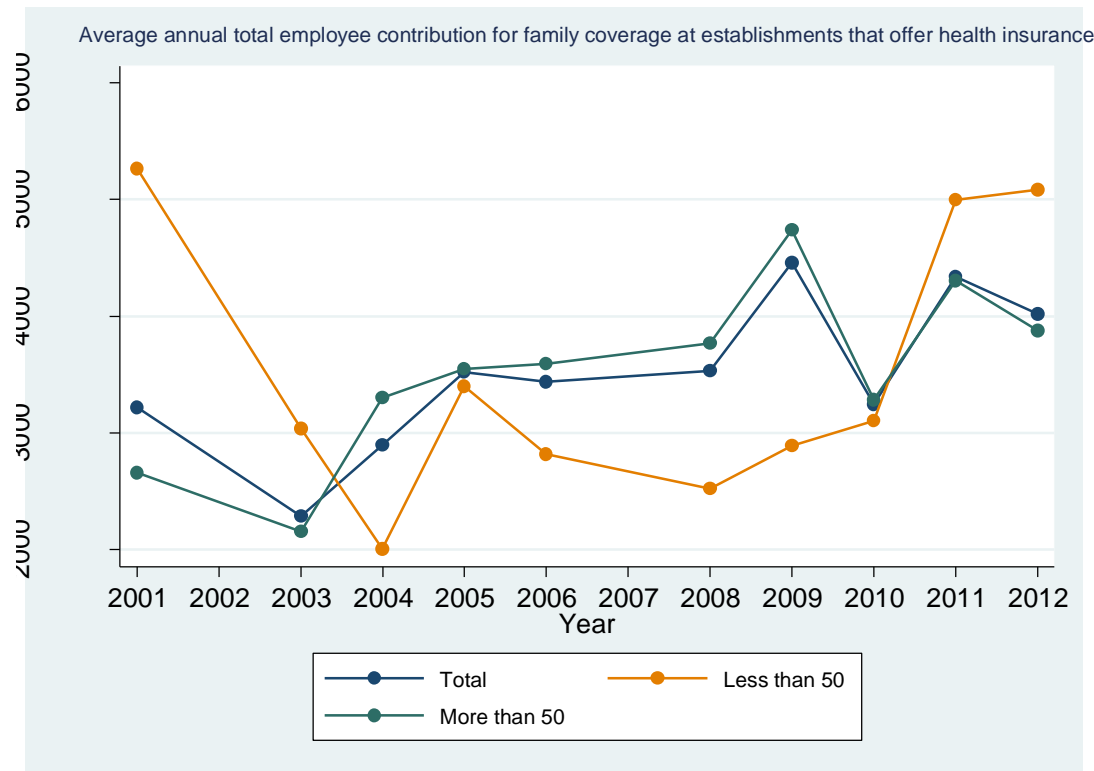
Share of premium paid by employees for family and single coverage, 2012

	Average total Premium	Employee Contribution	Share of the premium paid by the employee
Family	\$17,902	\$4,018	22%
Single	\$7,420	\$1,164	15%

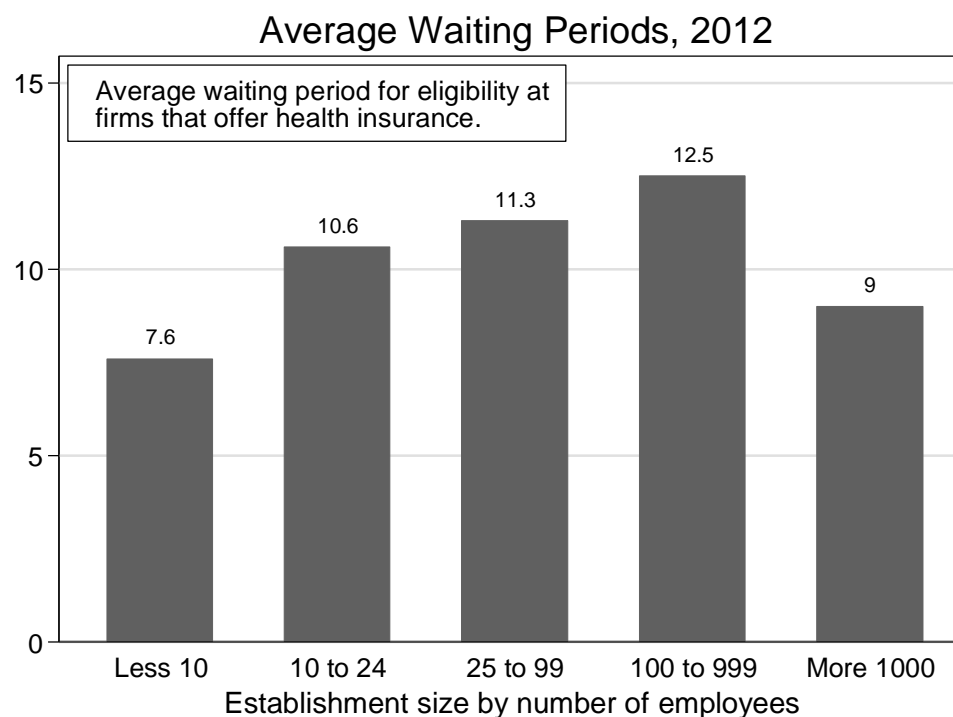
Trend in average annual employee contribution for single coverage over time



Trend in average annual employee contribution for family coverage over time



Average waiting periods, by firm size



Premium summary

- Average premiums for single coverage were \$7,420 in 2012 and have increased by about 58% since 2001.
- Average premiums for family coverage were \$17,902 and have increased by about 43%.
- Employers continue to pay a large share of the total premium

Conclusions:

Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS) Data

- The MEPS data provide useful insights into Alaska employer health insurance offerings over time
- Limitations:
 - Statistical inference difficult due to the limited sample size
 - No questions on wellness ,transparency, or types of plans offered or the benefits within them.
 - The survey uses average employment and therefore misses the seasonality prevalent in Alaska's economy